

Message Text

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60

ACTION EA-10

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05

SR-02 ORM-01 SSO-00 FDRE-00 IO-10 DPW-01 /084 W

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R 101115Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5107

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

UNCLAS SAIGON 4710

DEPT PASS TO IBS:NCA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, VS

SUB: VN PRESS CRITICIZES US FOREIGN POLICY IN INDOCHINA

1. DECLARING THAT "INDOCHINA SITUATION IS NOW IN STATE OF UTMOST URGENCY..." TRANG DEN (INDEPENDENT) NOTED IN APRIL 9 EDITORIAL THAT "THERE IS NOT MUCH TIME LEFT. THE AMERICANS'S CONSCIENCE MAY NOW BE UNEASY IN THE FACE OF THE TRAGIC SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND IN CAMBODIA. BUT ANY SUPERFICIAL MEASURES SUCH AS THE EVACUATION OF VIETNAMESE ORPHANS TO TRY TO APPEASE THEIR (US) CONSCIENCE AND HIDE THEIR SHAME ARE, IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, COMPLETELY USELESS. ACCORDING TO TRANG DEN: "THE PROBLEM FACING THE US IS REALLY A VERY HARD ONE. BUT IT IS CLEAR THAT THE US NOW FACES A DEFINITE CHOICE WHICH PERMITS NO MORE DELAYS. THAT CHOICE IS EITHER TO ENDURE SHAME AND ABANDON INDOCHINA, OR TO CONTINUE ASSUMING RESPONSIBILITY AND DO SOMETHING TO PUT AN END TO THE SUFFERING OF THE PEOPLE OF INDOCHINA."

2. ON SAME DAY, PRO-GVN QUAT CUONG RAN EDITORIAL ENTITLED "THE UNCLASSIFIED

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SPIRIT OF RESPONSIBILITY" WHICH MAINTAINED THAT "PRES FORD REPEATED

TIME AND AGAIN THAT THE US WILL NOT ABANDON SOUTHEAST ASIA AND WILL ALWAYS KEEP THE COMMITMENTS MADE TO US ALLIES ALL OVER THE WORLD...TO HELP THEM OPPOSE AND REPELL AGGRESSION". QUAT CUONG CONCLUDED THAT "EVENTS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN INDOCHINA ARE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE US TO RE-ASSERT ITS POLICY AND TO INFORM THE WORLD ABOUT ITS CHOICE -- BETWEEN THE SPIRIT OF RESPONSIBILITY AND SELFISHNESS."

3. IN ITS EDITORIAL OF APR 9 ENTITLED "ANTI-AMERICANISM," PRO-GN DAN CHU DECLARED THAT: "AFTER RECENT TRAGIC EVENTS IN THE HIGHLANDS AND CENTRAL VN, THE US PRESS IS NOW TAKING NOTE OF REACTIONS

OF AN ANTI-US ATTITUDE AMONG THE PEOPLE OF SVN AND IN THE WORLD..." AND "US OBSERVERS HAVE NOTED THAT FOR THE PAST TWO WEEKS THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE'S ATTITUDE VIS A VIS THE US HAS BEEN ONE OF REPROACH AND INDIGNATION." CONTENDING THAT VIETNAMESE ARE NOT MERCENARY, ARTICLE POINTED OUT THAT VIETNAMESE "WELCOMED AMERICAN SOLDIERS WHEN THEY SET FOOT IN VN AS ALLIES AND COMRADES-IN-ARMS" AND "DID NOT BLAME AMERICANS WHEN TROOPS WERE WITHDRAWN." MAINTAINING THAT VIETNAMESE "AGREED TO BEAR ALL OF THE BURDENS -- IN THE FIELD OF MANPOWER -- PROVIDED THAT THE US AND FREE NATIONS DO NOT FORGET THEIR RESPONSIBILITY OF PROVIDING US WITH THE MEANS..." DAN CHU CONCLUDED THAT: "AFTER PARIS AGREEMENT, THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE HAVE STILL SHOWN AN UNDERSTANDING ATTITUDE VIS A VIS US TROOP WITHDRAWALS. BUT IF IN ADDITION TO WITHDRAWING THE US WOULD LIKE TO SHIRK THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SHARING THE BURDEN BY PROVIDING THE MEANS -- THE EASIEST WAY TO SHARE THE BURDEN -- THIS WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO US. SUCH ACTION CAN ONLY BE VIEWED AS A BETRAYAL. AND THE FREEDOM-LOVING VIETNAMESE CANNOT REFRAIN FROM GETTING ANGRY, WHEN THEY THINK THAT THE US HAS BETRAYED THEM."

4. DOC LAP (INDEPENDENT) FRONT PAGED AN EDITORIAL ON APR 10 ENTITLED "PERSONAL PROMISES". NOTING THAT : "IT IS NOT YET KNOWN WHAT PROPOSALS PRES FORD WILL BRING FORTH" ARTICLE SURMISES THAT THE ZZFORD ADMINISTRATION WILL NOT HAVE ANY DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES IF THEY ARE NOT APPROVED BY CONGRESS." DECLARING THAT "THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE US IS IN A SERIOUS CRISIS FOLLOWING DISSINGER'S DEFEAT IN THE MIDDLE EAST," DOC LAP CHARGES THAT: "THE PEACE WITH HONOR WTHAT MESSRS. NIXON AND KISSINGER PROMISED FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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INDOCHINA HAS NOW BECOME A RETRAT WITHOUT EVEN A SMIDGEON OF HONOR." SUGGESTING THAT FORMER PRES NIXON HAD MADE A PRIVATE PROMISE BEFORE AND AFTER SIGNING OF PARIS AGREEMENT, ARTICLE CONCLUDES THAT "NOW THE AMERICANS WANT TO VIEW THAT AS A PERSONAL AGREEMENT. ANYWAY, ONLY BY WAITING FOR THE DECISION OF PRES FORD THIS THURSDAY WILL THE ISSUE BE CLARIFIED. MARTIN

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